

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01986 161531Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 NIC-01

SAJ-01 DRC-01 /098 W

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R 161512Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6771

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: WORSENERD CONDITION OF CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT'S HEALTH

1. RUDE PRAVO AUGUST 16 REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT SVOBODA, WHO NOW AT MAIN MILITARY HOSPITAL IN PRAGUE, IS BEING TREATED BY MEDICAL TEAM ADMINISTERING INTENSIVE MEDICAL CARE INCLUDING OXYGEN. TREATMENT REPORTED AS ARISING FROM COMPLICATIONS BUT OUTLOOK OPTIMISTIC BASED ON TENDENCY FOR PRESIDENT'S CONDITION TO IMPROVE.

2. DEPARTMENT WILL RECOGNIZE THAT WE ARE HEARING A GREAT MANY RUMORS, IN VARIOUS VEINS, ABOUT OUTLOOK FOR SVOBODA. IN CONTRAST TO FAIRLY OPTIMISTIC REPORT IN PRAGUE 1915, ANOTHER MFA OFFICIAL SAID AUGUST 15 HE HAD HEARD FROM PARTY CONTACTS THAT SVOBODA'S CONDITION WAS EXTREMELY SERIOUS, THAT HE APPEARED MORIBUND MOST OF TIME BUT HAD SPELLS OF CONSCIOUSNESS PART OF EACH DAY. MANY PEOPLE CONTINUE TO SAY THAT HE IS IN QUITE BAD CONDITION, KEPT ALIVE ONLY BE EXTREMELY STRONG HEART AND EXTRAORDINARY MEDICAL MEASURES. GIVEN THE MAN'S AGE AND LENGTH OF HIS ILLNESS, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT HE IS IN DANGER OF DEATH FROM DAY TO DAY, BUT PROBABLY NO ONE CAN SAY WITH ANY ASSURANCE WHEN HIS DAY MIGHT COME.

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PERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, HEALTH
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PRAGUE01986
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740226-0257
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740841/aaaabixc.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <23-Sep-2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORSENER CONDITION OF CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT'S HEALTH
TAGS: PFOR, (SVOBODA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005